



PARISH PARTYLINE

Concordia Lutheran & First Lutheran

April 2022

Vicar

Vicar Deb Hammer
pastoratcandf@gmail.com
(402) 518-0423

Secretary

Bridgett Connell
secretaryatcf@gmail.com
(402) 841-3110

CLC Council Members

Carolyn Alt
Judy Martindale
Doug Krie
Brandi Settje
Tamara Sterling
Dan Nolte

FLC Council Members

Rod Ketelsen
Vickie Sands
Katie Olesen
Gloria Dowling
Greg Carr
Richie Monteith

Concordia Lutheran Church

584-2471

Website:

www.concordialutheranelca.com

Facebook:

Concordia Lutheran Church, ELCA

First Lutheran Church

635-2461

Website:

www.firstlutheranallen.com

Facebook:

First Lutheran Church,
ELCA~Allen, NE

Announcements

Please help decorate the altar for Easter. Please bring any spring flowers or lilies. Vicar Deb's allergies would appreciate more spring flowers than Easter Lilies. The sign-up form is in the Narthex at CLC and on the table in the sanctuary at FLC.

Please continue praying for Erica Niemann for healing after her severe injury from a skiing accident. Send cards to:

Mayo Clinic Hospital
St. Mary's Campus
Erica Niemann – patient
1216 2nd St SW
Rochester, MN 55902

HOPE Circle will meet on April 7th at 2:00 p.m. at Kinship Pointe. Vicar Deb will be doing the Bible study. Hostess will be Peg L. A special offering will be received for Outdoor Ministries and Lutheran Campus Ministries.

FLC WELCA will meet on April 13th at 2:00 p.m.

A Special Offering for Ukraine and the Eastern Europe Crisis will be taken on April 24, 2022, during worship.

Looking for hymn suggestions! Please write down your favorite hymns and place in the container on the table in the Narthex at CLC and in the basket on the table at the back of the sanctuary at FLC.

FLC Online Giving is available at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z1PQ>

CLC E-giving option using your cell phone: Download the app "Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement", search for "Concordia Lutheran Church ELCA" and set up your account.

FLC WELCA are collecting supplies for Bridges to Hope. A full list of items can be found on bridgestohopene.org/donate.

Concordia - No Perfect People Allowed - T-shirts are available for \$12.00. Contact Trish Reifenrath via email at rreif@yahoo.com to order.



College Boxes – Start planning now! College boxes will be available to fill up April 1-24. Help show our college students how much we care about them.

Service men and women continue to need to hear from home, friends, and family. Please consider sending a "Thinking of You", "Thank You for Your Service", or just a short personal note to our current service members:

Sgt Christopher Wordekemper
53 Barclay Place Court, Apt. D
Charlottesville, VA 22901

Taylor Johnson
7541 Murray Hill, Apt 838
Columbia, MD 21046



We remember in our prayers those who need our prayers.

- Bonnie Kellogg
- Jeremy Bruning & Family
(Dad passed)
- Darlene Cuba (Son passed)
- Shelly Jones & Family
(Mom passed)
- Rusty Reifenrath & Family
(Dad passed)

We remember those in care facilities or homebound.

- Bonnie Kellogg (Homebound)
- Frieda Bowman (Hillcrest)
- Lyla Swanson (Kinship Pointe)
- Marilyn Wallin (CountryView)
- Fern Erickson (Kinship Pointe)
- Shirley Lanser (Homebound)
- Elaine Lubberstedt
(Homebound)

We remember those serving in the armed forces.

- Chris Wordekemper
- Taylor Johnson

Concordia Members

- JoAnn Hauptmann ; Chloe, Zach Lee & Joyce Johnson
- Mike & Andrea Johnson; Delaney, Cade
- Doug & Lynette Krie
- Susan Lindgren

First Lutheran Members

- Court & Darlene Roberts
- Jerry & Barb Sands
- Tom & Vickie Sands
- Jerry & Donna Schroeder
- Jerry Smith & Karen Claussen-Smith

If you know of any person in need of prayers, please call the church office at 635-2461 and leave a message if no one answers.

Worship Helpers & Celebrations

	First Helpers	Concordia Helpers
Ushers & Greeters	Olesen Family	Jason Fischer & Kolton Fischer
Acolytes	4/3 4/10 4/17 4/24	4/3 Kassidee Holz 4/10 Kolten Settje 4/17 Toni Thompson 4/24 Delaney Johnson
Lay Readers	Olesen Family	Tammy Sterling
Communion Steward	Katie Olesen	Georgia Addison
Altar Guild	Barb Sands & Barb Lund	Carolyn Alt
Altar Flowers		Georgia Addison
Coffee after Service	4/3 Karen Claussen Smith 4/10 Olesen Family 4/17 No Coffee Today 4/24 Tina Boyle	



Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary First

- 4/3 Nancy Ellis
- 4/3 Dale & Barb Strivens
- 4/3 Duane & Barb Lund
- 4/7 Loren & Betty Carr
- 4/7 Barb Ketelsen
- 4/15 Mackenzey Connell
- 4/15 Skyler Hammerstrom
- 4/19 Jerry & Donna Schroeder
- 4/24 Richard Olesen
- 4/25 Dwight & Ronnie Gotch
- 4/26 Heidi Keil

Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary Concordia

- 4/6 Dustin Thompson
- 4/18 Peg Anderson
- 4/24 Steve & Peg Anderson
- 4/25 Elaine Lubberstedt
- 4/30 Mitchell Fischer
- 4/30 Dan Nolte

Ministry Opportunities

FLC Council Meeting April 4th at 7:00 p.m.

Worship Planning Meeting April 5th at 6:30 p.m. at CLC

CLC Choir Practice April 6th at 5:45 p.m.

Lenten Service April 6th at 7:00 p.m. at CLC

HOPE Circle April 7th at 2:00 p.m. at Kinship Pointe

CLC Council Meeting April 11th at 7:00 p.m.

FLC WELCA April 13th at 2:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service April 14th at 7:00 p.m. at FLC

Good Friday Service April 15th at 7:00 p.m. at CLC

Easter Services – April 17th

Sunrise Service at 7:30 a.m. at CLC (Breakfast following Service)

Easter Service at 10:15 a.m. at FLC

Newsletter Deadline April 18th

Lay Internship Committee Meeting April 18th at 7:00 p.m. at FLC

Mutual Ministry Meeting April 19th at 7:00 p.m. at FLC

Confirmation Class April 20 & 27 at 7:00 p.m. at CLC

CLC Mother/Daughter Brunch May 7th at 9:30 a.m.

STORIES OF INSPIRATION AT THE BARN @ GOD'S COUNTRY



Join us as Diane Gubbels shares with us her "Stories Of Inspiration." As her beautiful quilts unfold, so do the stories that lead to their creation. As a talented designer and applique artist, Diane allows her creative spirit to speak through her quilts, using fabric and design.

COME JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL
CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH
MOTHER-DAUGHTER BRUNCH
MAY 7, 2022 AT 9:30 AM
GUEST SPEAKER DIANE GUBBELS

Information

Special Offering for Ukraine and the Eastern Europe Crisis

When: April 24, 2022 during worship

Community: Let us come together as one body of Christ as we give to those in need.

SITUATION REPORT

EASTERN EUROPE CRISIS

MARCH 10, 2022

SITUATION

On Feb. 24, armed conflict broke out between Russia and Ukraine, causing a humanitarian crisis. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, more than 2 million people are seeking refuge in neighboring countries, including Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Romania and Moldova. There are major humanitarian concerns for both internally displaced people and refugees.



RESPONSE

Lutheran Disaster Response is supporting these member churches through Lutheran World Federation:

- German Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine
- Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Poland
- Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Slovakia
- Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Romania
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Romania

The churches are distributing food, bedding and hygiene items, as well as providing pastoral care and assisting Roma communities and foreign nationals. Additional responses through partners in these countries and others in the region are expected in the coming weeks and months.



Photo: Rev. Zach Courter, ELCA

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Pray
Let us pray for the people who have been affected by the conflict in Ukraine. May God's healing presence give them comfort and hope in their time of need.

Give
Contribute to Lutheran Disaster Response (Eastern Europe Crisis Response).

Connect:
Share our posts on your social media sites and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



Thank You

Thank You Everyone for all the wonderful Birthday messages, cards, and gifts. I am so blessed by all your kindness!! – Vicar Deb

Thank you to Michael Foods for their donation of eggs for our Soup Supper. It was greatly appreciated.

-First Lutheran Church Members

I would like to organize a supply drive for Haven House. I talked to Haven House and they are in need of nonperishable items, body mists, and things for kids birthday celebrations such as cake mixes and frosting. They already have enough corn, green beans, and peas. In a time where we can be so thankful for the blessings in our life, I would like to help bless others and would appreciate your generosity to help share this joy! If you would like to help donate to the Haven House, I will have a box for the donations in the Concordia Narthex and will be gathering the goods weekly with final delivery to Haven House on Saturday, April 30th. Thank you!

-Delaney Johnson



2022 CLC Council Goals

1. Strengthen Faith Foundation of Concordia

- Initiate Prayer Partners Program for youth in Kindergarten through Confirmation. Solicit mentors and council to host/sponsor an annual kickoff event.

2. Increase Mission Outreach

- Collaborate with First Lutheran to identify a local mission opportunity to be shared by both congregations.
- Partner with WSC Delight Ministries to include them in service opportunities at CLC.

3. Maintain Concordia's physical structures

- Oversee Property Committee project of paving a section of the East parking lot utilizing the Ardyce Johnson annuity and ensure adequate additional funding if needed.
- Encourage volunteers to complete church ramp repair and replace parsonage driveway as identified in 2021

4. Preparing for the Future

- Invite and involve youth in Growing in God's Presence to assist in annual Christmas decorating of the church.

Vicar's Article

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we journey together through lent with one another in community, we are joined together as one body of Christ. Our Christian faith has brought us together in holy baptism to follow and celebrate the life of Jesus. We do this by pondering on Jesus' journey on earth leading up to his death on the cross. Because Jesus rose again, we are filled with hope in the promise of everlasting life. This is the Good News that brings Joy to our hearts.



You Can Have Jesus's Joy! If he were here — and he is here — this is what he would say to you. I want you to receive this personally from Jesus himself: *“These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full,”* John 15:11.

God intends that the joy that was set before Jesus and that gave him the power to endure the greatest suffering in the greatest act of love for the least deserving — God intends that joy to be your joy. This is what it means to be a Christian — to embrace the whole Christ: the suffering Christ, the risen Christ, the reigning Christ, the coming Christ, who says at every point, “I have come, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.”

The reason the resurrection has explosive power in our lives now is the same reason it had explosive power in the life of Jesus on Good Friday. In his case, the hope of resurrection was the joy that held him to the cross. And so, it is with us: for the joy that is set before us in the resurrection, we endure the cost of love, no matter how high, for the least deserving. This is how we are created to be in community with one another in all that we do. And we do it all in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessings, *Vicar Deb*



LENT SERIES: CREATED FOR COMMUNITY
April 6 – Created in Community with Christ 7:00 p.m. at CLC

HOLY WEEK:
April 10 – Palm Sunday
April 14 – Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. at FLC
April 15 – Good Friday 7:00 p.m. at CLC
April 17 – EASTER Sunrise 7:30 am at CLC
EASTER Service 10:15 am at FLC

First Lutheran Council Meeting Highlights

One unified body of Christ, called to be agents of love and service to all!

First Lutheran Council met on March 14, 2022. Present were Vicar Deb Hammer, Gloria Dowling, Rod Ketelsen, Greg Carr, Katie Olesen, and Vickie Sands.

Secretary's report was read and approved.

Treasurer's report was read, discussed and approved.

Vicar's report was read, discussed, and approved at joint council meeting.

Property items were discussed. Richie has purchased a door for the kitchen. He will cut it to fit and install it. It was decided to have Richie look into the outdoor trim and paint.

Old Business:

- The soup supper on February 27, 2022, raised \$2,006.00 with 127 people being served.

New Business:

- There will be fellowship in the basement following the next two Lenten services at First.
- There will be no coffee after the 10:15 service on Easter Sunday.
- College boxes will be put out from April 3-24.
- The Senior Tea will be hosted at First Lutheran on May 9. There will be a planning meeting for this on March 28 at 5:00 or 5:30 PM
- We will return to sharing the peace and passing the offering plates at the next service.
- The Olesen's request to use the church basement on May 14, 2022, was approved.

Motion made to adjourn.

Closing prayer by all.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Sands, Secretary

Next meeting is April 4, 2022 at 7:00

Joint Council Meeting Highlights

First Lutheran Council and Concordia Lutheran Council met for a joint council meeting on March 14, 2021. Present were Vickie Sands, Vicar Deb Hammer, Gloria Dowling, Katie Olesen, Rod Ketelsen, Carolyn Alt, Judy Martindale, Doug Krie, Tammy Sterling, Dan Nolte, and Brandi Settje.

Vicar's report was read and discussed. On March 27 during the service at both churches there will be a blessing of the beginning of Vicar Deb's internship. The vicar's mentoring pastor is Anna Spicer from Emerson, NE. Her supervising pastor is Heidi Wallace from Lyons, NE. There is also a mentoring team with members of both churches.

A motion to approve the Vicar's report was approved.

New officers were elected. President – Katie Olesen, Vice president-Brandi Settje, Secretary-Vickie Sands. A motion to approve the new officers was approved.

We will be having a joint service the last Sunday in August at 10:15 at First Lutheran. Mercy Meals may possibly be taking part in this service. A luncheon will be served after the service, provided by both councils.

We discussed creating a job description for church secretary. It was decided that a small committee will work on this. A motion to approve this committee was approved.

There will be a pay raise for Vicar Deb in 2022. This part of the original compensation package. Motion to approve the vicar's pay increase approved.

Motion made to adjourn.

Closing prayer by all.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Sands, Secretary

Next meeting will be June 6, 2022, at Concordia. FLC council will meet at 6:00, joint at 7:00, and CLC council following joint.

Concordia Lutheran Council Meeting Highlights

Reflecting God's love in service to all through our family of faith!

The Concordia Church Council met on March 14th, 2022, in church basement of First Lutheran Church, Allen prior to Joint Council meeting. Council members in attendance were Vicar Deb, Doug Krie, Carolyn Alt, Judy Martindale, Brandi Settje, Dan Nolte, and Tamara Sterling.

- The meeting was opened with summoning of God's Presence with Candle Litany to be done for Joint Council.
- Vicar's report was presented and approved. She stated that March 27th service will be the beginning of her internship and will have a Blessing at the service with goal of Spring 2023 to be ordained.
- The Treasurer's report and Financial Secretary report were reviewed and approved.
- The windbreak fence on north side of church was finished by Laurel High School Shop class. A total of \$275.00 was suggested and approved by all members.
- Property Committee is patiently waiting for warmer weather to progress on east parking lot paving. Warren is overseeing.
- Prayer Pal Program kicks off after the March 27th church service. The plan is to have pizza, water, and bars. It will also be Vicar Deb's Blessing Day at service and Delight Ministries from WSC will be teaching Sunday School before church service.
- 2022 Council Goals will be put on the website and in the newsletter.
- Council will serve lunch after Lenten services March 23 and April 6.
- We have an extension from EMCOR, a USPS oversight company on insurance claims, till April 1st for repairs to the post office from the car accident that occurred. Warren Hansen is overseeing this project.
- Brandi will order Palm fronds for April 10th services, (Palm Sunday).
- Easter is April 17th at Concordia for sunrise services with breakfast casseroles, cinnamon rolls, juice/coffee to follow for all. Council members will be providing the food/drinks.
- Concordia will be getting the college boxes out and ready for congregation members to add to for May Finals, with a note in April newsletter as a reminder and week of March 24th as shipping deadline.
- It was discussed if it is time to start person to person/handshaking Passing of the Peace during church service and passing of the offering plate. It was voted and approved to do so to those who feel comfortable and decline as they indicate, an offering plate will be kept in the narthex for those who don't want to pass the offering plate.

Next meeting is April 11th at 7 pm at the church.

Meeting was adjourned and closed with Candle Litany for opening of Joint Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Tamara Sterling